## Office of The Administrator



Takiyah A. Douse Interim Administrator

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Augusta Fire Chief among fire officials supporting new bipartisan legislation to upgrade fire stations and improve public safety

**AUGUSTA, GA (July 25, 2022)** – Augusta Fire Chief Antonio Burden is among Georgia's fire department officials supporting the proposed bipartisan Fire Station Improvement Act of 2022 to help fire departments across the nation improve, repair, and renovate their facilities.

The bill is being introduced by U.S. Senators Jon Ossoff and Josh Hawley. If passed, the legislation will offer Augusta, Georgia government, and fire departments nationwide more opportunities for better housing.

"Improving the functionality of our facilities is critical to the efficiency of our department's operations," said Augusta Fire Department Chief Antonio Burden. "Senator Ossoff's new bill would help us pay for better housing and other essential upgrades for our courageous firefighters and staff. Our house is your house. Opportunities to address our critical infrastructure directly correlate to a safer community."

To date, Augusta has at least ten fire stations in operation that are more than 40 years old. It would cost about \$12 million to renovate these facilities.

Chief Burden is available for interviews on this topic. Media interested in scheduling a time to speak with him should contact Public Information Manager Danielle Harris at 706-312-5511.

<u>Click here</u> to read the Fire Station Improvement Act of 2022, and <u>click here</u> to view the joint news release from Senators Ossoff and Hawley.

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